

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A service element that belongs to a distributed system as a component, the distributed system further including other ~~among a plurality of components of the distributed system~~ that are independent of one another and interconnected by a bus, comprising:

an arrangement for configuring the ~~other ones of the plurality of~~ components;

~~an arrangement for equipping the other ones of the plurality of components;~~

an arrangement for upgrading the other components;

an arrangement for maintaining the other ~~ones of the plurality of~~ components; and

an arrangement for performing an emergency function.

12. (Previously Presented) The service element according to claim 11, further comprising one of:

an arrangement for detecting a new component and for integrating the new component into the distributed system; and

an arrangement for operating a display device to represent information about a configuration.

13. (Previously Presented) The service element according to claim 12, further comprising:

an arrangement for performing an error diagnosis of software running on the other ones of the plurality of components; and

an arrangement for, in the case of an error, correcting the software within a framework of maintenance.

14. (Currently Amended) The service element according to claim 13, further comprising:

an arrangement including a communication element ~~and~~ for loading new software for the plurality of components.

15. (Previously Presented) The service element according to claim 14, further comprising:  
an arrangement for allowing a remote diagnosis of the plurality of components of the distributed system.
16. (Currently Amended) The service element according to claim 15, further comprising:  
an arrangement including a communications element ~~and~~ for, in the case of a serious functional error, contacting a service provider.
17. (Previously Presented) The service element according to claim 11, further comprising:  
an arrangement for operating a display to transfer information about the distributed system to a user of the distributed system.
18. (Previously Presented) The service element according to claim 11, further comprising:  
an arrangement for checking newly loaded software in accordance with a predetermined value.
19. (Currently Amended) A distributed system, comprising:  
a bus; and  
~~a plurality of~~ components connected by the bus and that are independent of each other, the ~~plurality of~~ components include a service element that includes:  
an arrangement for configuring the other ~~ones of the plurality of~~ components,  
~~an arrangement for equipping the other ones of the plurality of components,~~  
an arrangement for upgrading the other components,  
an arrangement for maintaining the other ~~ones of the plurality of~~ components, and  
an arrangement for performing an emergency function.
20. (Previously Presented) The distributed system according to claim 19, wherein:  
at least one of the plurality of components includes a communication element.
21. (New) The service element according to claim 14, wherein the communications element includes a transceiver station communicating over a radio channel.

22. (New) The service element according to claim 13, wherein the error diagnosis is performed at a predefined time interval.

23. (New) The service element according to claim 11, wherein the bus includes one of an electrical wiring system, an optical wiring system, and a radio based system.

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached two Replacements Sheets include changes to Figures 1-3. These Replacement Sheets replace the original sheets including Figures 1-3. Each of these figures have been amended to include labels, as suggested by the Examiner.

Attachment: Two (2) Replacements Sheets